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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 5, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended August 30 totaled an estimated 17.5 billion ton-miles, 1.3 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 35 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 591.4 billion ton-miles, 0.4 percent lower than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended August 30 totaled 383,323, down 2.6 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 0.6 percent lower than the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 2.4 percent in the West, but down 11.0 percent in the East and 1.8 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 13 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, grain showed a gain of 1,912 cars (9.0 percent). Thirteen of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended August 23 totaled 99,388 trailers and/or containers, 5.5 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 34 weeks of the year was 3,190,177 trailers and/or containers, up 9.6 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 08/30/86:

	Loadings in Week ended August 30, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	23,073	I	1,912	9.0	D	2,043	8.1
Other farm products	2,711	I	126	4.9	D	137	4.8
Metallic ores	14,149	I	944	7.1	D	2,232	13.6
Coal	112,828	D	4,873	4.1	D	4,613	3.9
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	14,816	I	344	2.4	D	274	1.8
Nonmetallic minerals	7,541	D	3,121	29.3	D	1,185	13.6
Grain mill products	10,487	D	243	2.3	I	67	0.6
Food and kindred products	10,771	D	788	6.8	D	18	0.2
Primary forest products	10,229	D	507	4.7	I	230	2.3
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,420	I	876	11.6	I	464	5.8
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,603	D	1,365	9.8	D	152	1.2
Chemicals and allied products	25,776	I	734	2.9	I	1,762	7.3
Petroleum products	5,178	I	365	7.6	I	215	4.3
Stone, clay and glass products	10,890	D	123	1.1	I	487	4.7
Coke	3,674	D	1,661	31.1	I	176	5.0
Metals and products	7,805	D	1,616	17.2	I	665	9.3
Motor vehicles and equipment	18,854	D	3,886	17.1	I	1,097	6.2
Waste and scrap materials	7,966	D	1,226	13.3	I	188	2.4
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	3,684	D	3,538	49.0	I	286	8.4
All other carloads	71,785	I	7,335	11.4	I	2,702	3.9
LCL traffic	93	D	93	50.0	I	14	17.7
Total Cars Loaded	383,323	D	10,404	2.6	D	2,301	0.6

Corresponding week of 1985 393,727

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (35 weeks)	13,032,901	13,134,817	D 0.8
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
34 Weeks ended August 23	573.9	576.7	D 0.5
Week ended August 30	17.5	17.2	I 1.3
35 Weeks cumulative	591.4	593.9	D 0.4

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